

Yesica Chavez

My name is Yesica Chavez; I am a first-generation student at the University of Colorado Denver pursuing my degree in psychology. For the past four years, I have worked with Environmental Learning for Kids to get more children of ALL backgrounds outside and in nature. My first exposure to environmental education was as an urban ranger where I worked to teach hundreds of kids to fish, the importance of being outside, and encouraged them to take what they learned back to their families. Eventually, after my first summer, I knew I had to speak out about the lack of diversity in the outdoors. In Colorado, we have the opportunity for ALL our communities to be involved in hiking, climbing, fishing, skiing, and so on. But it seems that as we take steps into diversifying the outdoors, we take a couple of steps back all at the same time. I am currently the youth ambassador for the Colorado Outdoors Recreation office so, I want to make sure that our youth are also involved in this conversation because they are our the next generation. Primarily, because in the following years, I hope that the conversation of 'lack of diversity of the outdoors' is a debate we are still fighting for porque, Si Se Puede!!